

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIAGO 02595 132321Z

62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /131 W

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R 131827Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WSHDC 8511

INFO US MISSION GENEVA 0382

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UNCLAS SANTIAGO 2595

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: CI PINT PFOR SOCI UN

SUBJ: PROVINCIAL MILITARY TRIBUNALS

1. TALCAHUANO TRIAL OF 28 PERSONS OPENED MAY 10 AS SCHEDULED (SANTIAGO 2483). ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, MAJORITY OF DEFENDANTS ARE MIR MEMBERS WHO WERE CAUGHT IN A RAID ON AN ALLEGED "GUERRILLA SCHOOL" AT HUALQUI, NEAR CONCEPCION. THEY ARE CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS AND VIOLATION OF INTERNAL SECURITY LAW. APPARENTLY REPORTERS ARE PRESENT, AND ONE NEWSPAPER STORY REPORTS TWO RED CROSS OBSERVERS WILL ALSO ATTEND. PRESS NOTES A PREVIOUS "CONSEJO DE GUERRA" CONVENED IN TALCAHUANO SOME THREE MONTHS AGO TO JUDGE 43 PERSONS FROM TOME AREA.

2. NEWSPAPERS REPORT A SECOND ROUND OF PRISONERS WILL BE TRIED BY MILITARY TRIBUNAL IN RANCAGUA BEGINNING MAY 15. ACCORDING TO THESE STORIES, THERE ARE 21 PERSONS IN THIS GROUP, ALL FROM AREA OF SAN VICENTE DE TAGUA TAGUA IN O'HIGGINS PROVINCE. MOST ARE ACCUSED OF BELONGING TO, R TRAINING, PARAMILITARY GROUPS. RANKING MEMBER OF THIS GROUP IS FORMER RADICAL PARTY GOVERNOR OF SAN VICENTE DEPARTMENT (A SUBORDINATE UNIT OF O'HIGGINS PROVINCE) OSCAR MUNOZ.

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PAGE 02 SANTIAGO 02595 132321Z

3. IN FIRST ROUND, RANCAGUA MILITARY TRIBUNAL METED OUT SEN-

TENCES RANGING FROM 540 DAYS TO ELEVEN YEARS TO 22 PERSONS
(SANTIAGO 2441). MAXIMUM SENTENCE REQUESTED BY PROSECUTOR
WAS 16 YEARS. MIGUEL LEE URZUA, SUBJECT OF US CONGRESSIONAL
INQUIRIES, RECEIVED SENTENCE OF EIGHT YEARS IMPRISONMENT. SOME
OF THESE DEFENDANTS WILL REPORTEDLY ALSO BE CHARGED IN RANCAGUA
SECOND ROUND (PARA 2 ABOVE).
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